alarm system including the manually operated fire alarm should be installed and that the wet riser system and internal hydrants as have been installed, should be commissioned. DDA has reported that these recommendations have been implemented. The Fire Officer, Delhi is also reported to have inspected the building so as to see the adequacy of the fire prevention measures. DDA will take further action, if any, on receipt of his report/comments.

(b) The Expert Committee was of the view that the fire in Vikas Sadan was caused deliberately. The matter was entrusted to CBI who have since declined to take cognizance. Now the matter has been entrusted to DCP (Crime and Railways) by the DDA for investigation. His report is awaited.

(c) to (e) In view of reply to part (b) above, question does not arise.

Foodgrain stock in the country

741. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total stock of foodgrains with the Central Government at present;

(b) what is the cost in upkeeping the stock, and

(c) the reasons for which stock of foodgrains is not being utilised for strengthening the public distribution system and also for expansion of food for work programme which has now virtually come to a standstill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Total stock of foodgrains with the Food Corporation of India as on 1-11-1985 is estimated at 15.49 million tonnes.

(b) The carrying cost of buffer stock and the pooled distribution cost for distribution through P.D.S. as per 1985-86 budget estimates is Rs. 41.84 and Rs. 41.04 per quintal respectively, excluding storage and transit losses.

(c) Allocations of foodgrains for the public distribution system as well as National Rural Employment Programme/Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme have been at enhanced levels during the current year.

Central assistance to Gujarat under ARP Scheme for providing drinking water

742. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gujarat Government has urged for the Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 191.81 crores under ARP Scheme for providing drinking water facility in the rural areas of Gujarat;

(b) whether the Central Government propose to provide necessary funds for this purpose; and

(c) what amount the Central Government have allotted for drinking water schemes in Gujarat during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c) The Central Government assists the States in providing safe drinking water in the rural areas under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARP). Under this programme, Gujarat received Rs. 2595 lakhs as Central assistance in the Sixth Plan. For the current year 1985-86 the tentative allocation to Gujarat is Rs. 771.64 lakhs out of which Rs. 540 lakhs has already been released. The provision for rural water supply in the Seventh Plan under the Minimum Needs Programme of the State Plan is Rs. 80 crores.